

CINDERELLA

by CHARLES PERRAULT

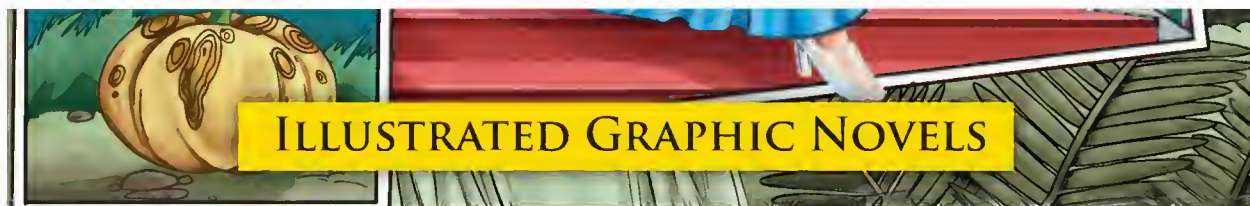


ILLUSTRATED GRAPHIC NOVELS

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OM

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BROTHERS GRIMM



The Grimm Brothers are perhaps one of the most successful story tellers of all times. Jakob Ludwig Grimm and Wilhelm Karl Grimm were born on January 4, 1785, and February 24, 1786, respectively, in Hanau near Frankfurt in Hessen. They were among a family of nine children.

When Jakob was eleven, their father, Philipp Wilhelm, died.

After this, their mother, Dorothea Grimm, struggled to earn a living.

Jakob preferred research work, and worked out most of their theories of language and grammar. Wilhelm, more interested in music and literature, was responsible for the pleasant style of their collection of fairy tales. The brothers first attended school in Kassel, Germany, and then pursued legal studies at the University of Marburg. At the university, a professor named Friedrich von Savigny developed in them an interest for past cultures. Inspired, the brothers began collecting their own stories, folktales told to them mostly by women and peasants.

In 1808, Jakob was made court librarian to the King of Westphalia. And in 1812, the Grimm brothers published their first volume of fairy tales—*Children and Household Tales*. Some of these stories were already published works from other languages.

A second edition of the *Children and Household Tales* was published during 1819–22. Five more editions were issued, in which stories were added or subtracted, until the seventh edition of 1857, which contained two hundred and eleven tales. This collection is a treasure house of animal stories and fairy tales that remains unrivaled to this day.

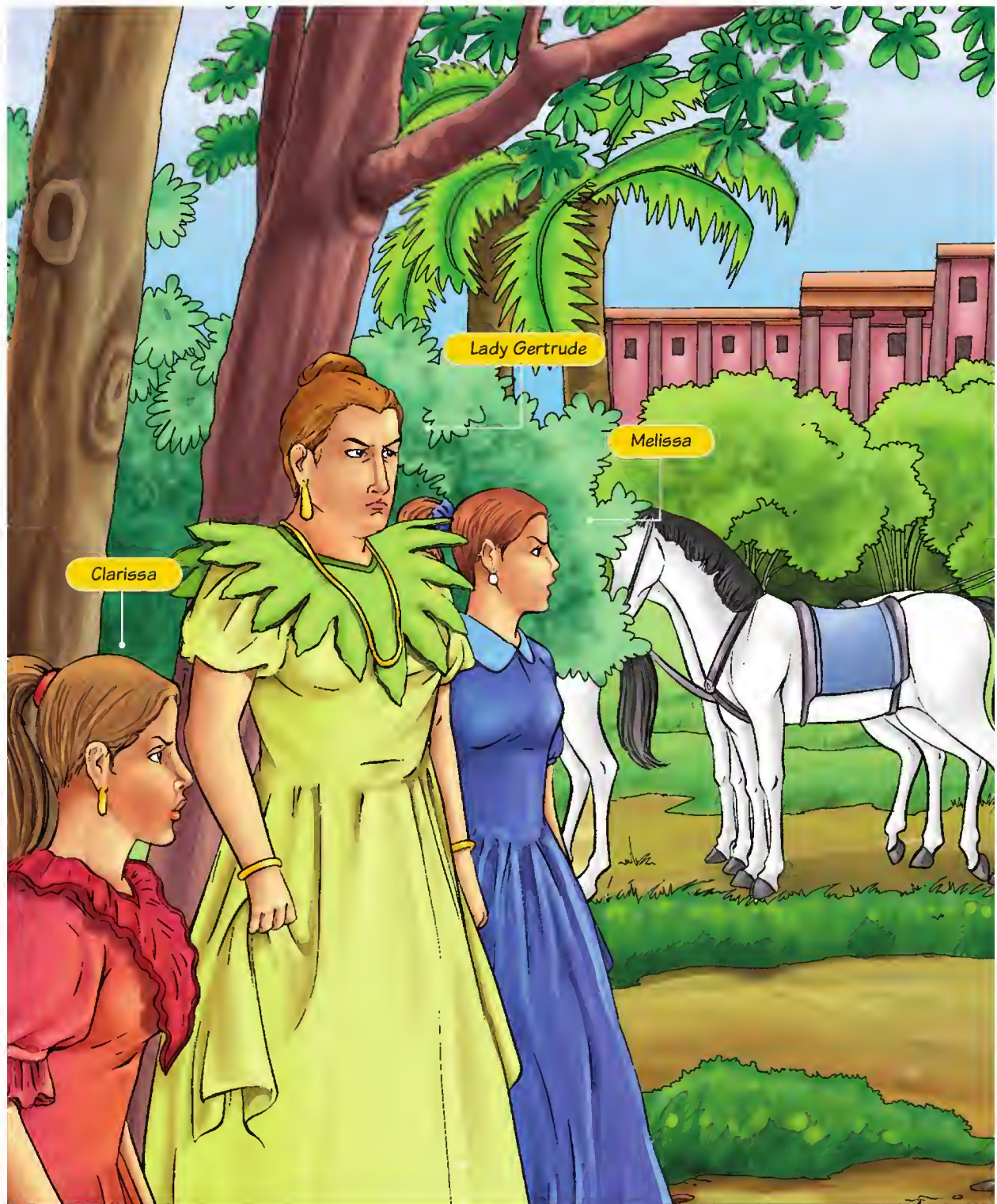
In 1816, they published *Old German Forests*—a study in the history of early literature.

Their last years were spent in writing an ultimate dictionary of the German language. The first volume was published in 1854. However, the dictionary was finally completed in 1960 by various scholars, and consisted of sixteen large volumes.

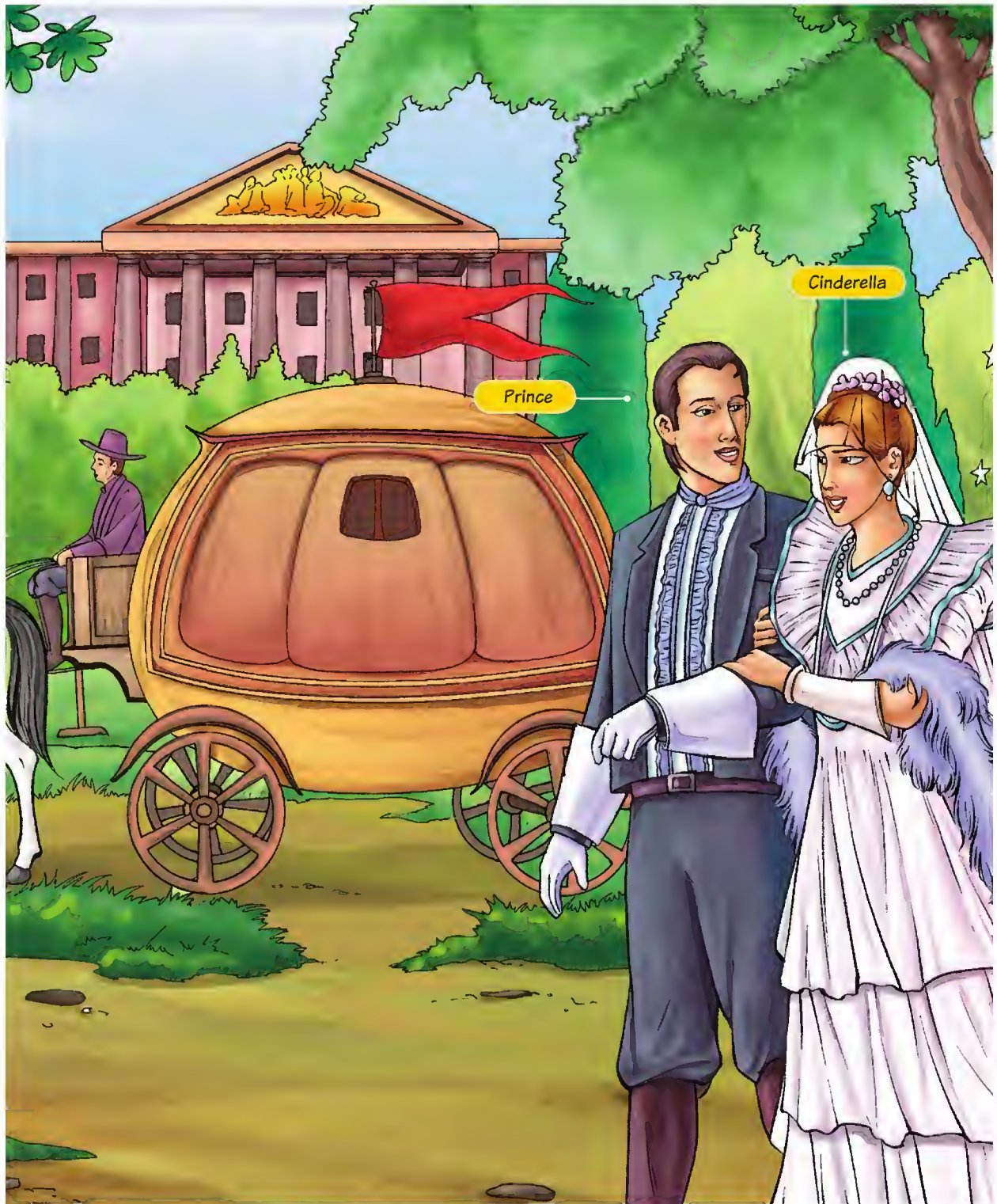
Wilhelm died in Berlin on December 16, 1859. Jakob continued to work on the dictionary until his death in Berlin on September 20, 1863.

The Grimm's crystalline fairy tale style has influenced generations of children's book writers and paved the way for other masters of this genre.

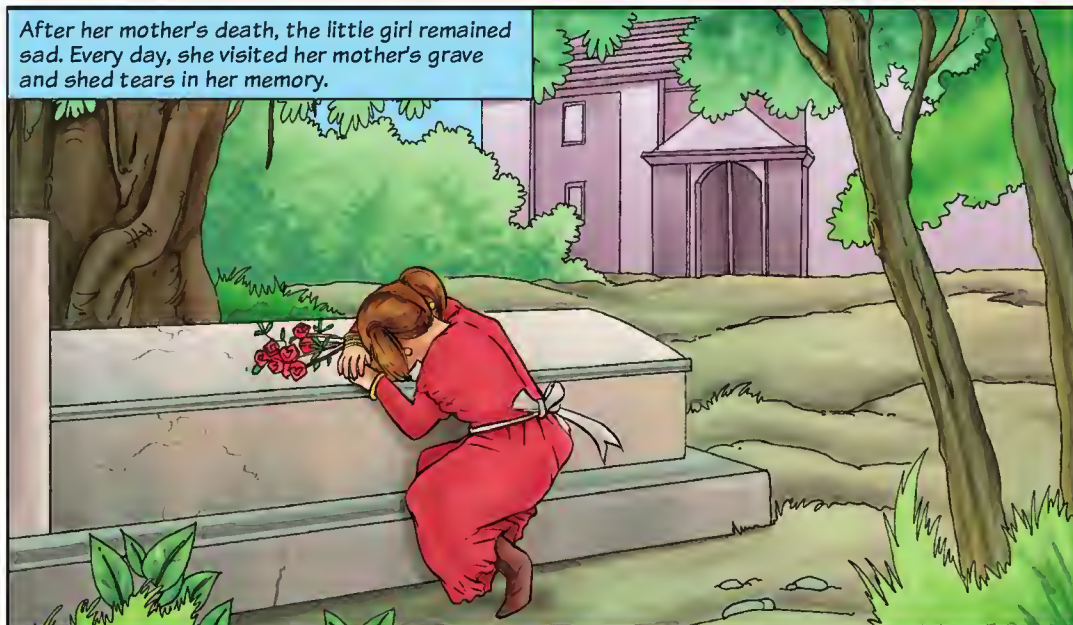
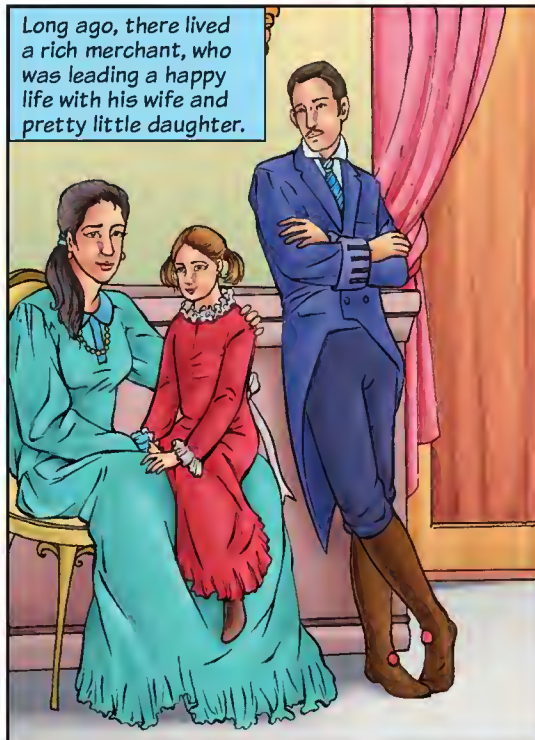
children's book writers and paved the way for other masters of the genre, from Hans Christian Andersen to Maurice Sendak. The Grimm's stories not only appeal to the young, but enthrall people of all ages.

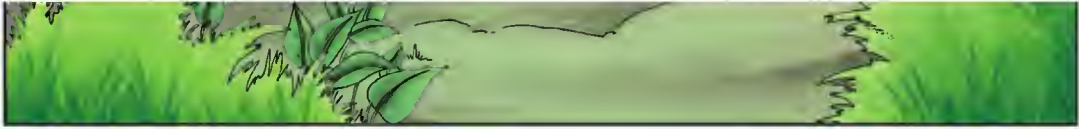








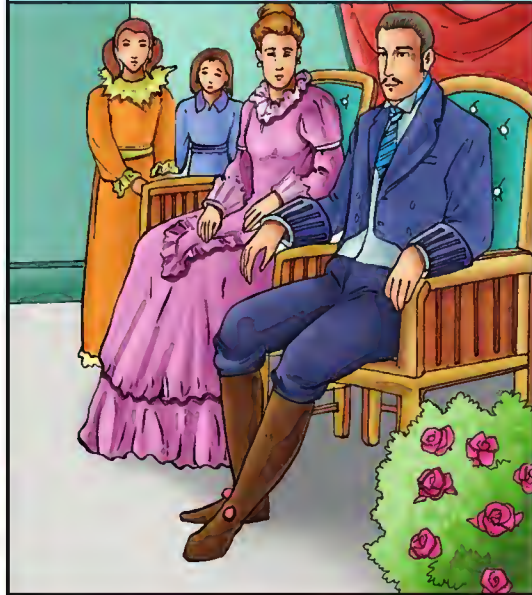




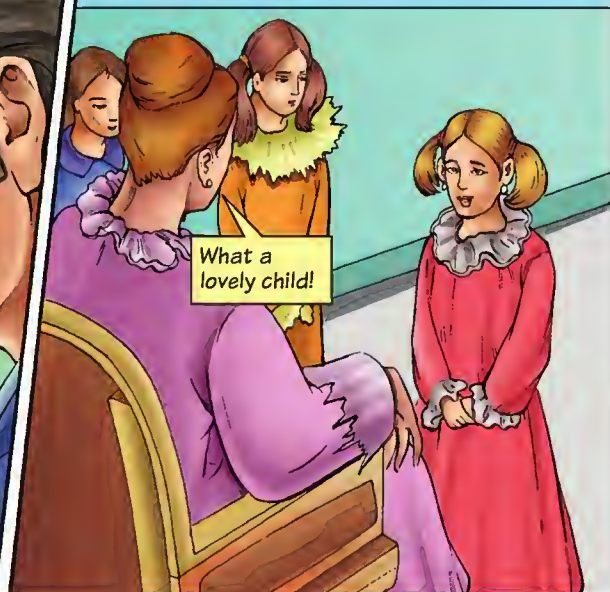
Time passed, but the little girl remained sad. The merchant was worried to see this.



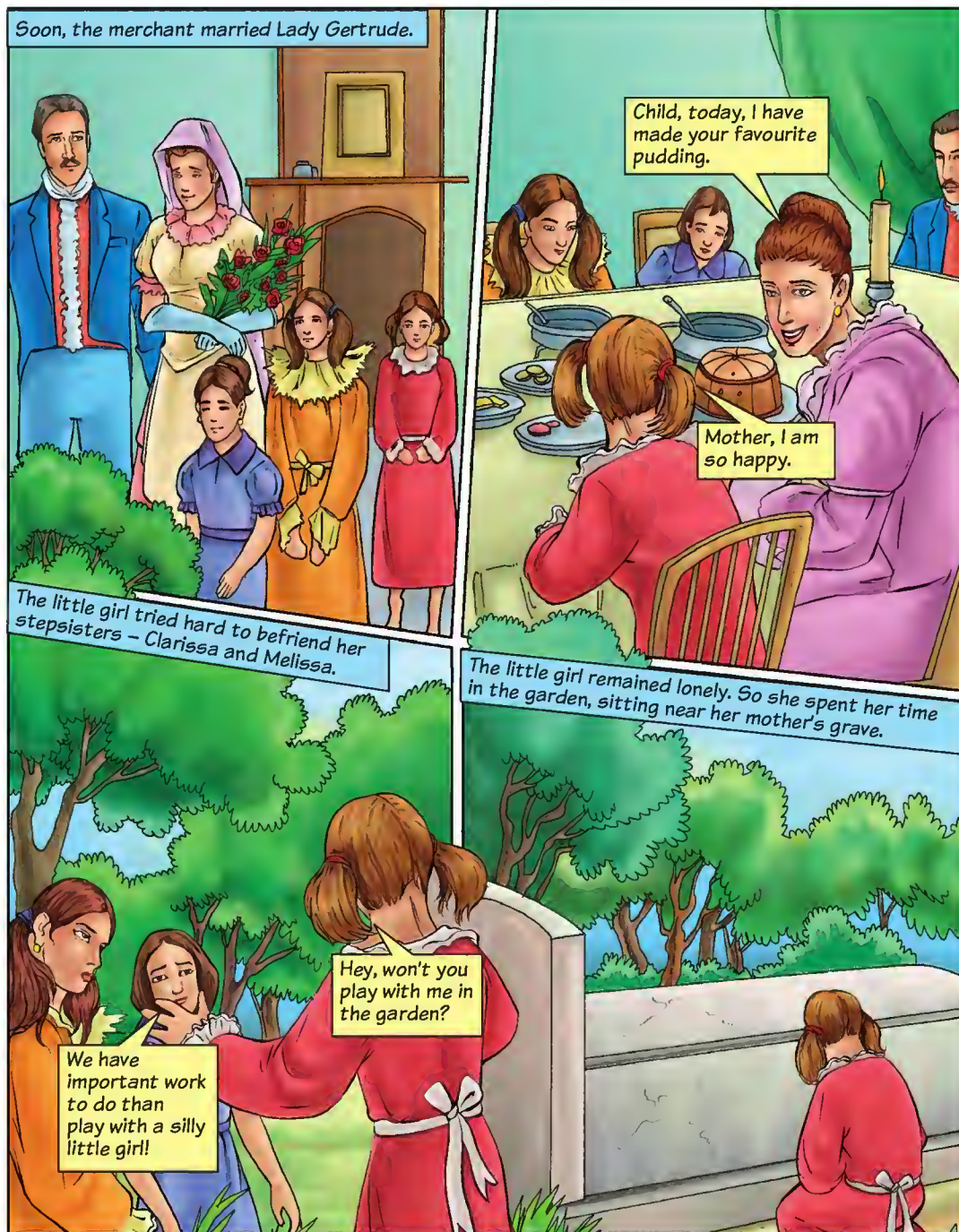
With this thought in mind, the merchant proposed marriage to a beautiful widow called Lady Gertrude. Lady Gertrude had two daughters called Clarissa and Melissa.



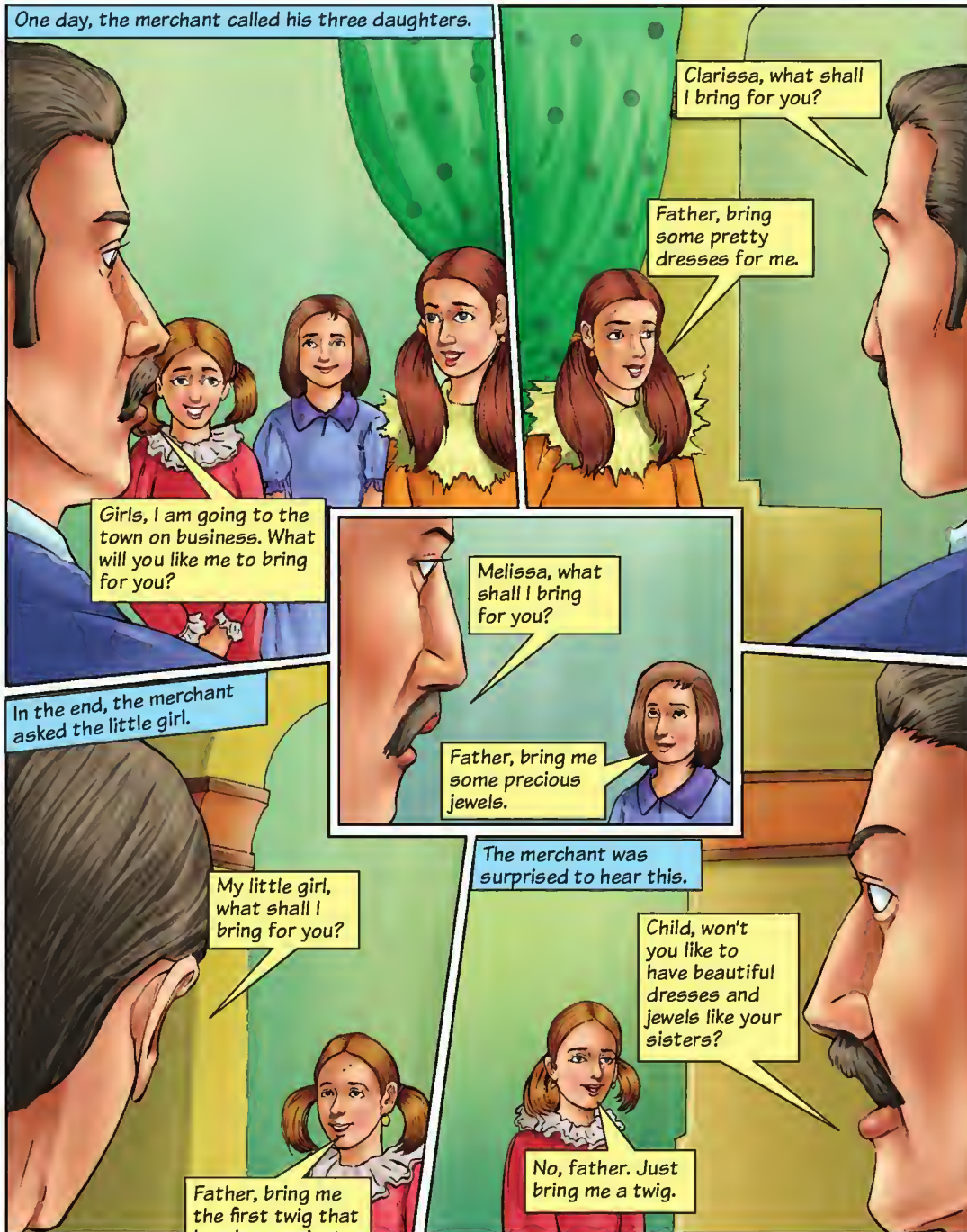
The next day, the merchant invited Lady Gertrude to his house.



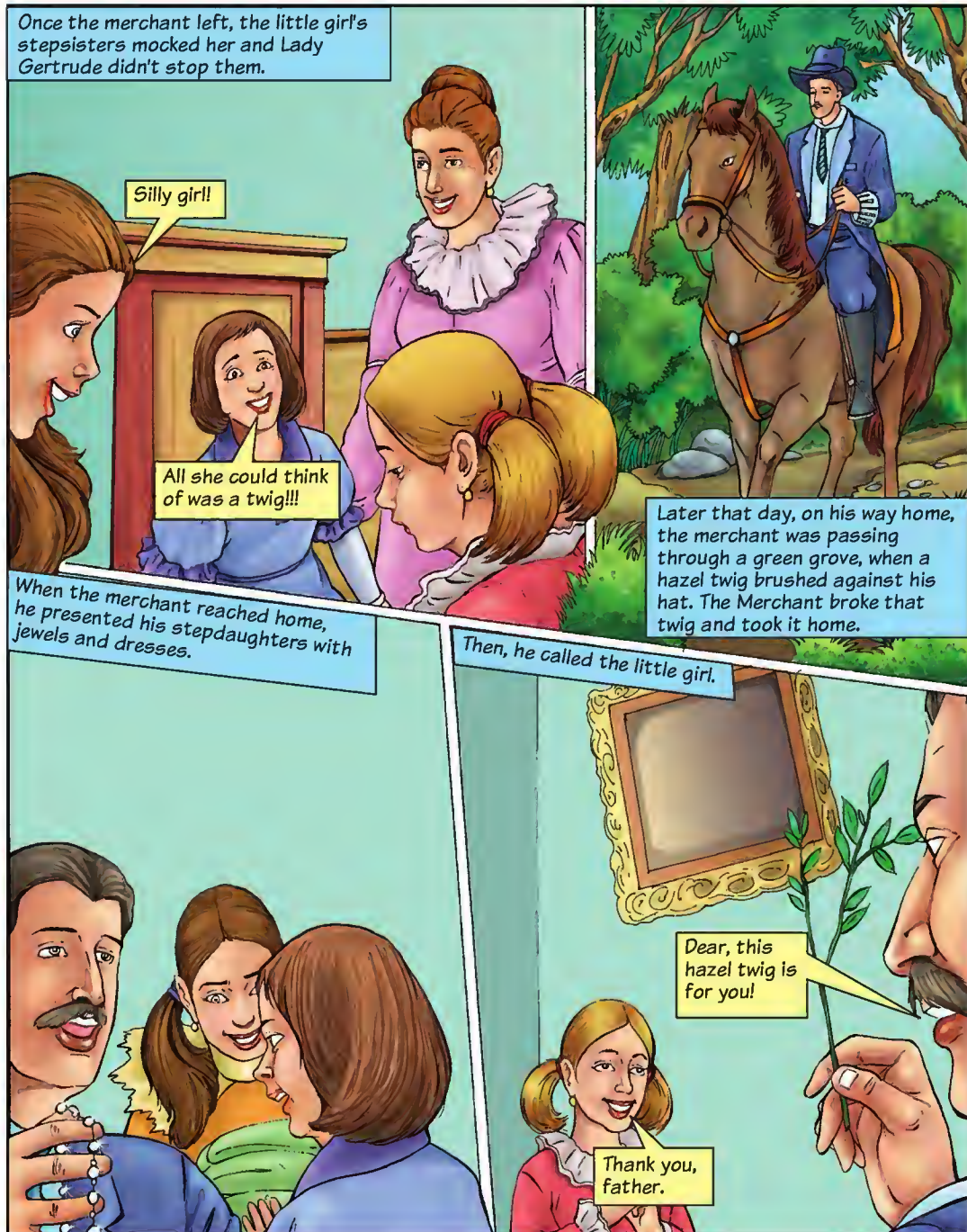










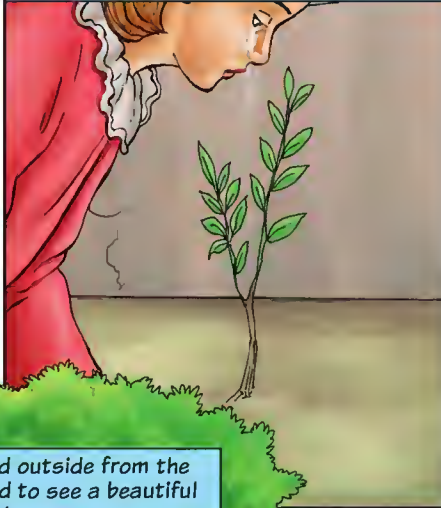




At once, the little girl rushed to her mother's grave and planted the hazel twig beside it.



Sad, the little girl cried. Her tears fell upon the hazel twig and watered it.



The next day, when the little girl looked outside from the window of her room, she was surprised to see a beautiful hazel tree standing beside her mother's grave.



The little girl rushed to the garden. At that moment, a pair of birds flew down from the tree and sat on her shoulder.

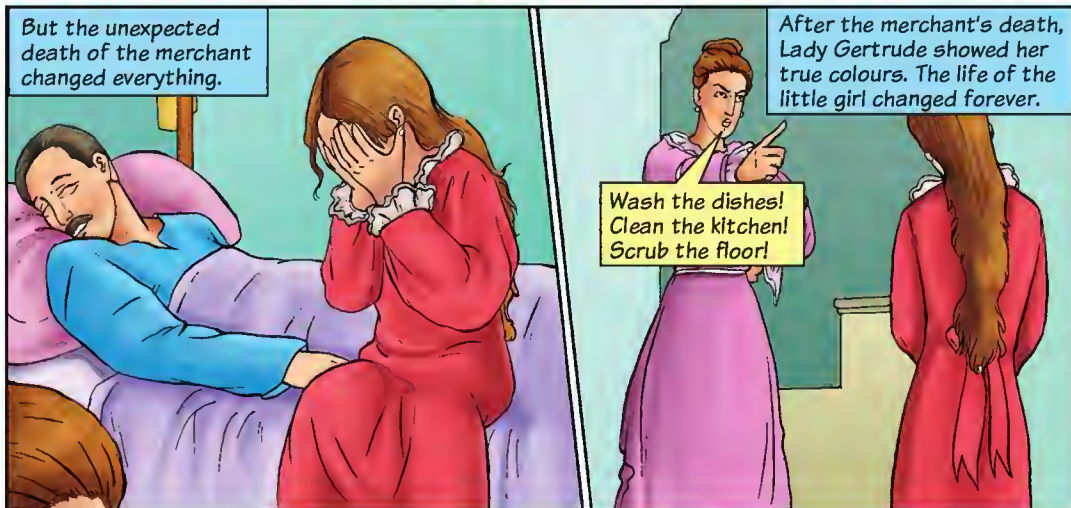


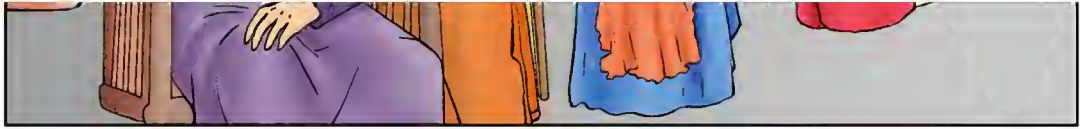
Will you be my friends?

We will!
We will!

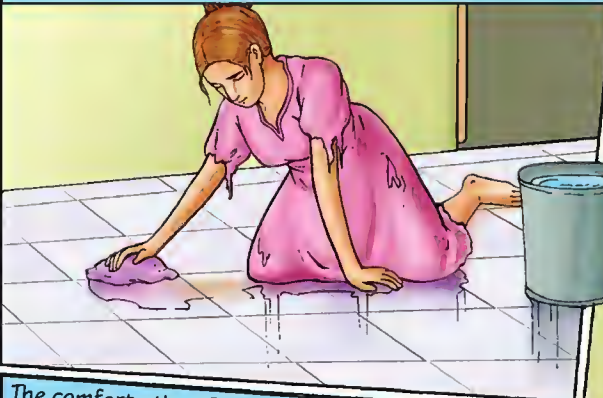




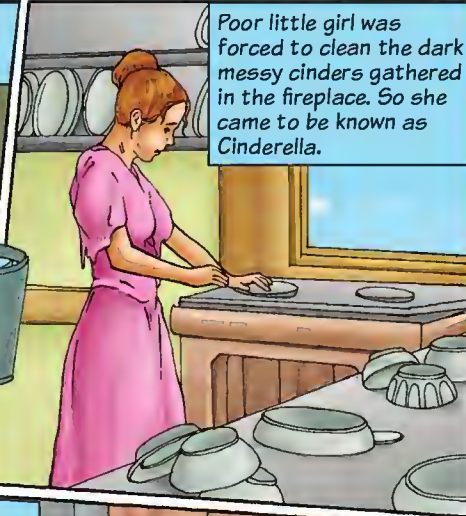




So Lady Gertrude did all that she could do to subdue the charms of the little girl. She forced her to wear ragged clothes and do the household chores.



Poor little girl was forced to clean the dark messy cinders gathered in the fireplace. So she came to be known as Cinderella.



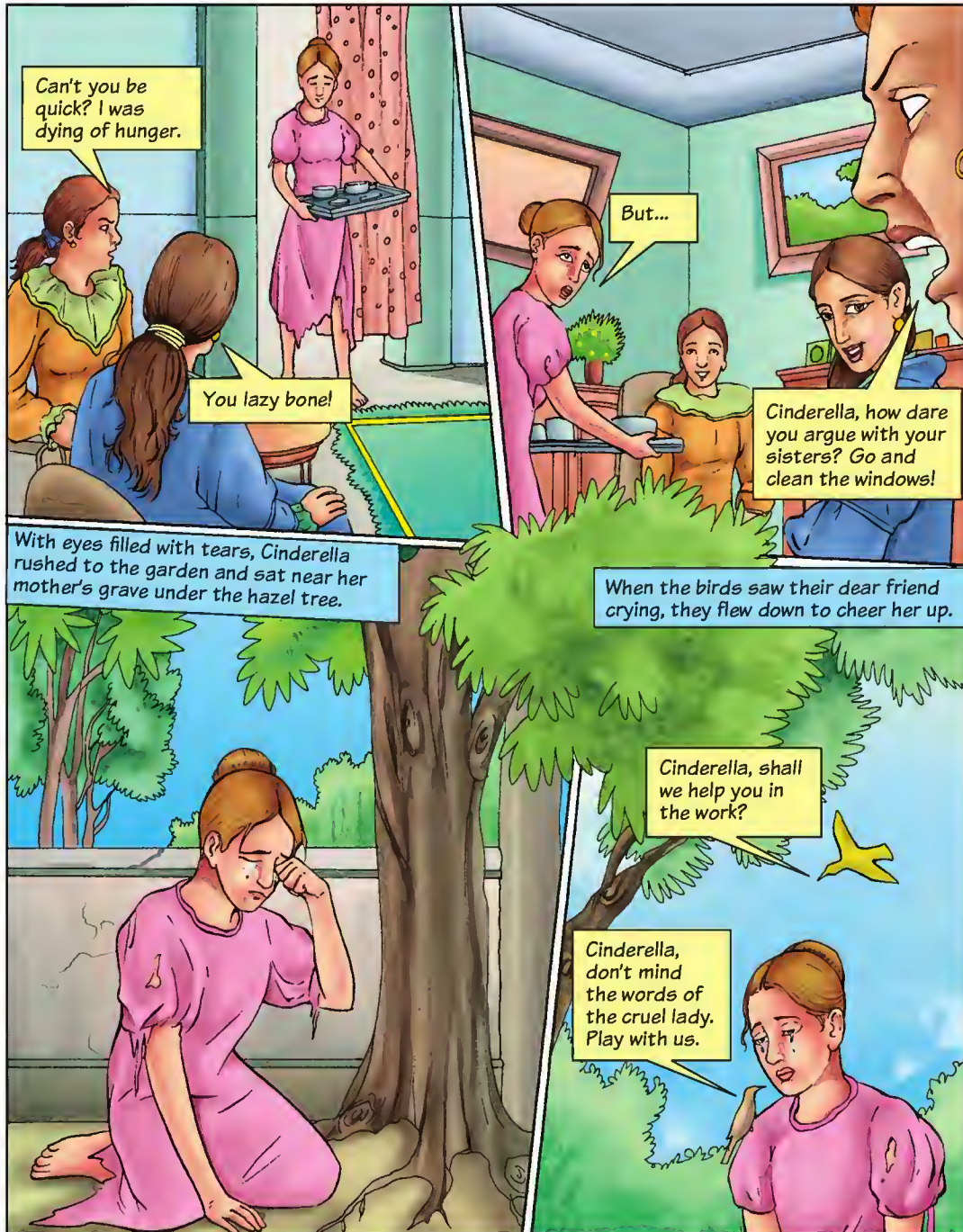
The comforts that Cinderella had enjoyed, when her father was alive, were snatched away. She slept in the attic.

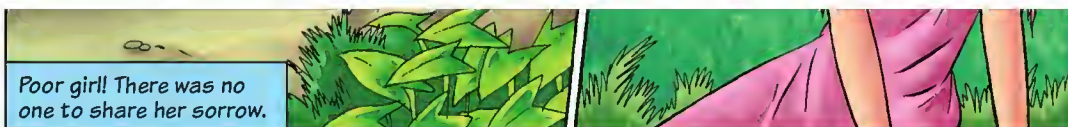


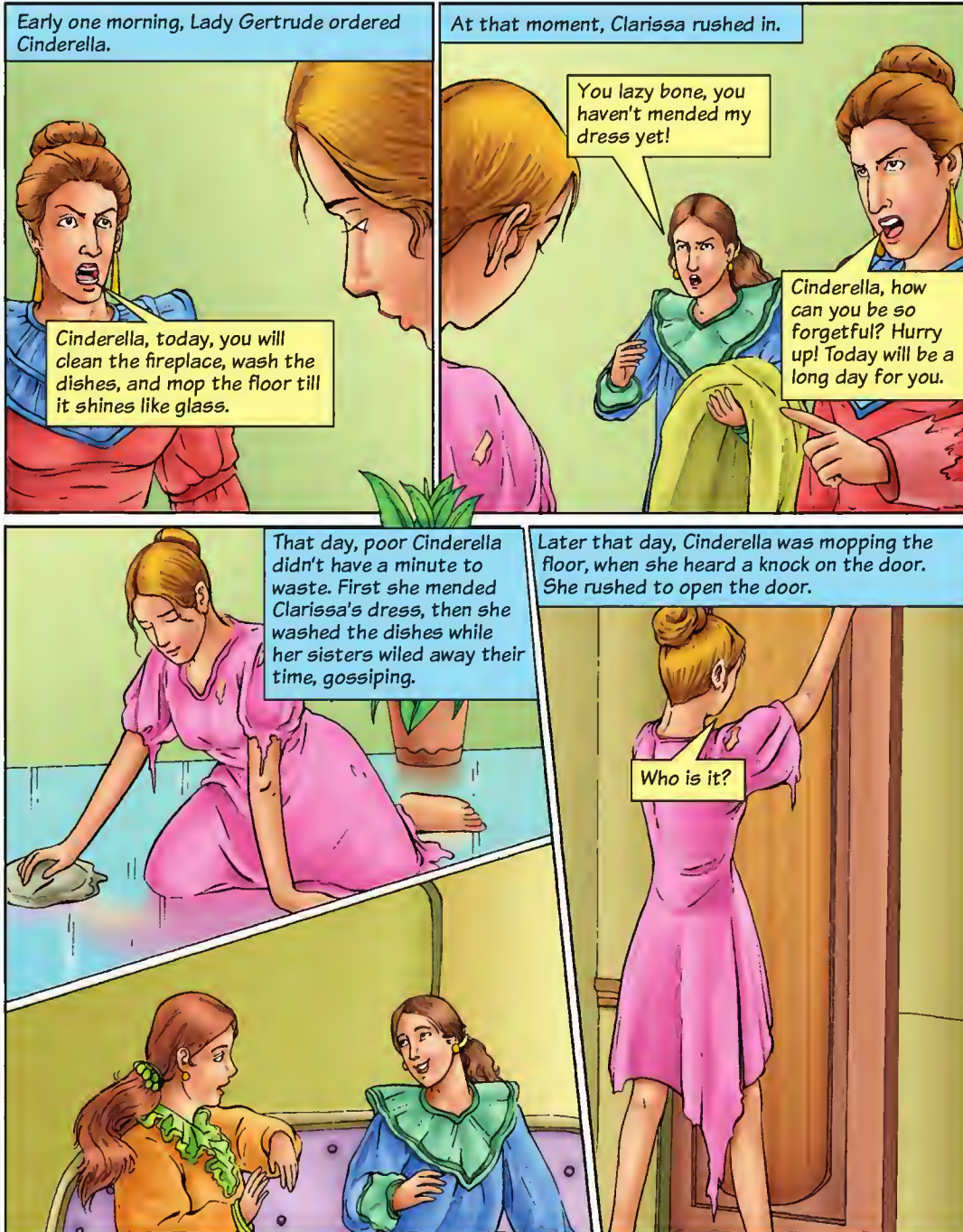
Cinderella's day began early. While she struggled with the household chores, her sisters dressed up in expensive dresses.



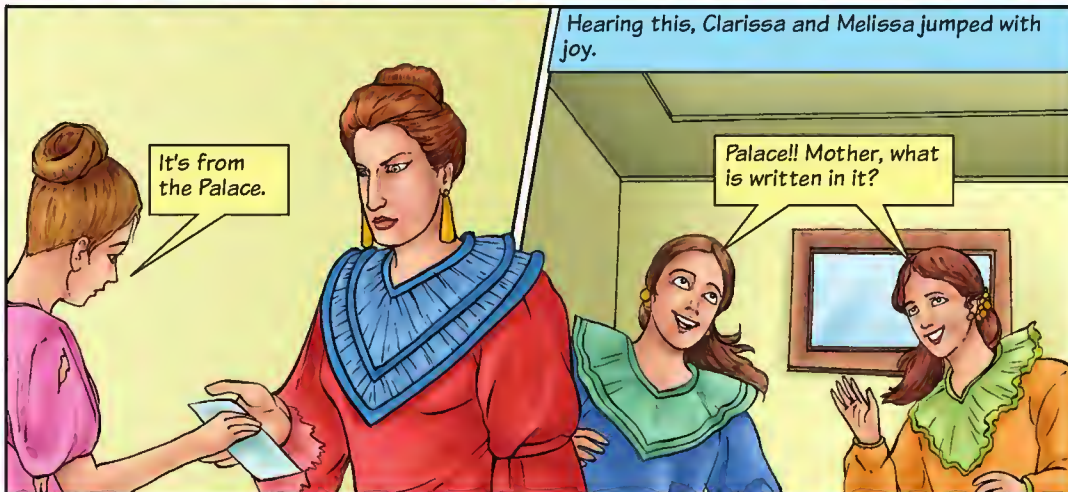
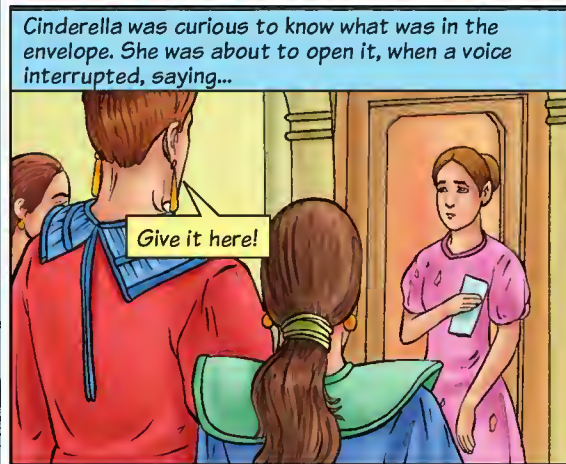
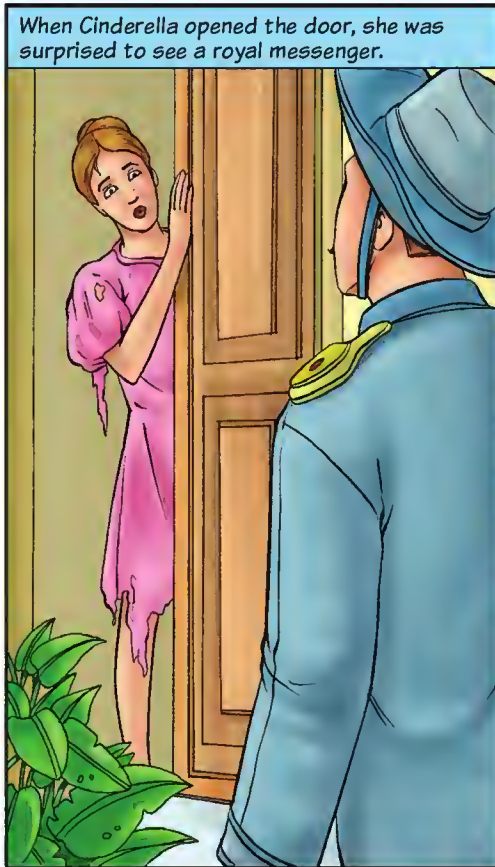














Then, Lady Gertrude read the letter as all the three girls watched her curiously.

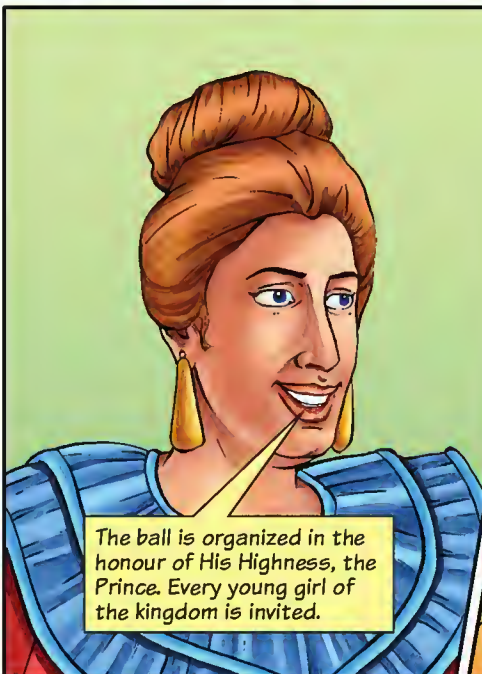


Well, a ball is to be held in the palace!

A ball!

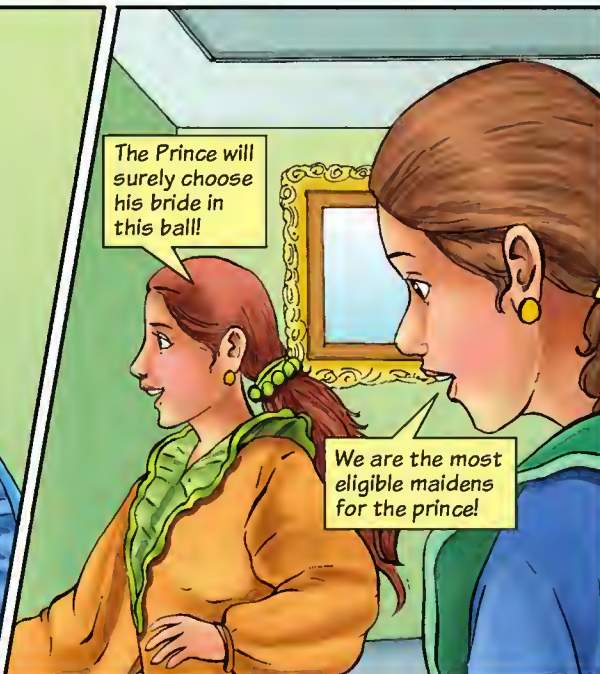


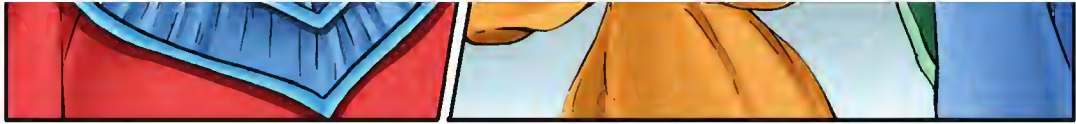
The ball is organized in the honour of His Highness, the Prince. Every young girl of the kingdom is invited.



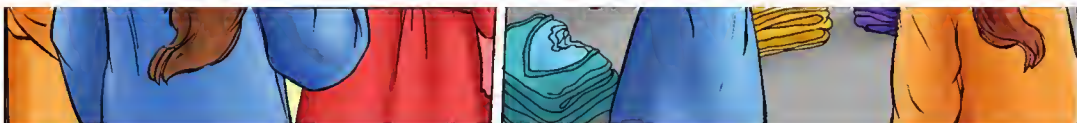
The Prince will surely choose his bride in this ball!

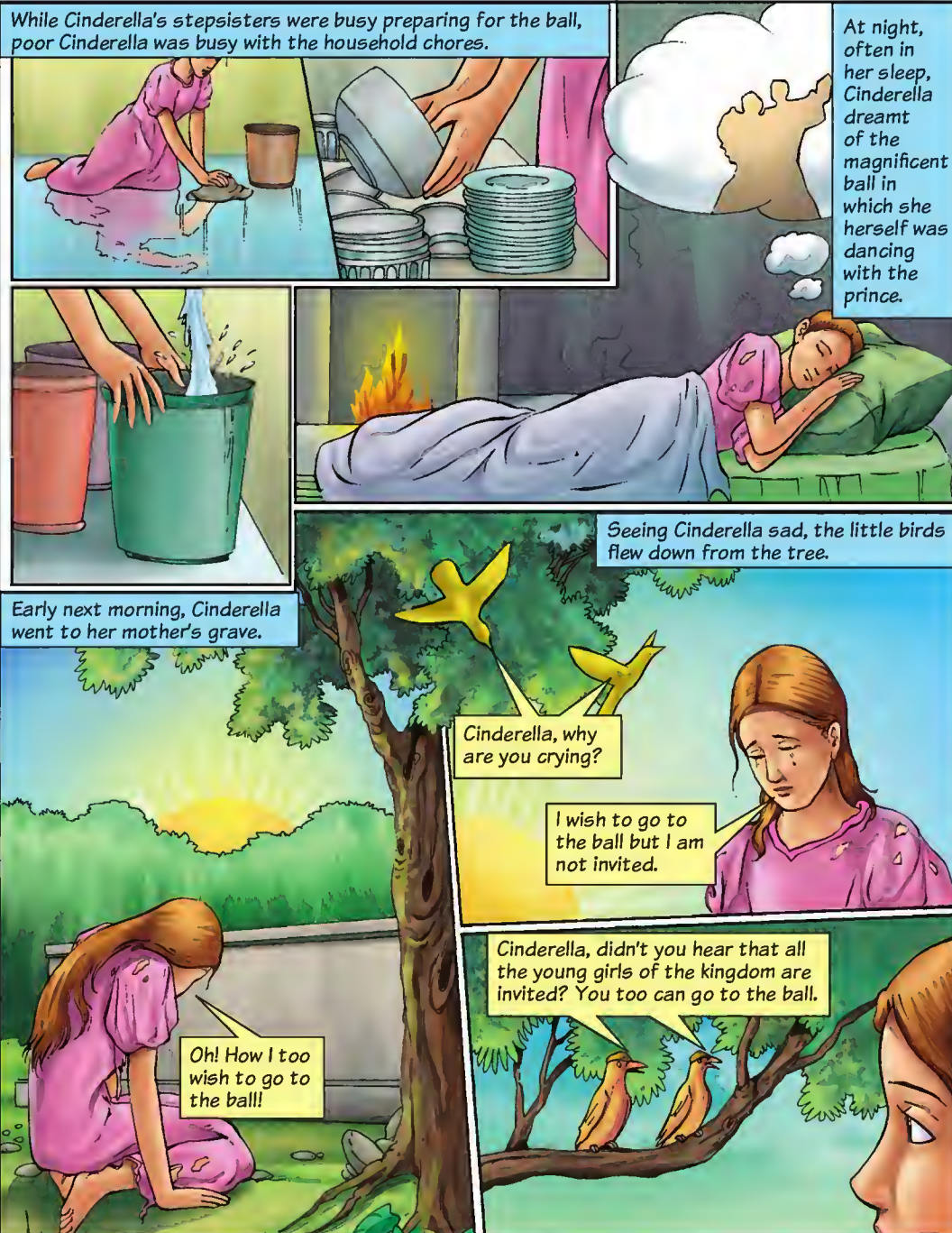
We are the most eligible maidens for the prince!

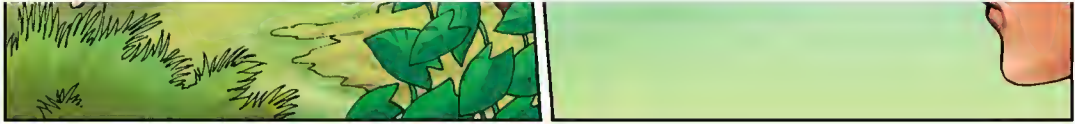












Then, Cinderella went to Lady Gertrude, who was busy instructing Clarissa and Melissa for the evening's ball.

Clarissa, Don't be outspoken and
Melissa, do act shy.

Stepmother,
may I come in?

Cinderella, where have you been? Have you forgotten that you have to help your sisters prepare for the ball?

Mother, the invitation said that every young maiden is invited. That means, I too can go to the ball.

Hearing this, Cinderella's stepsisters laughed at her.

You, Cinderella? You wish to go the ball!

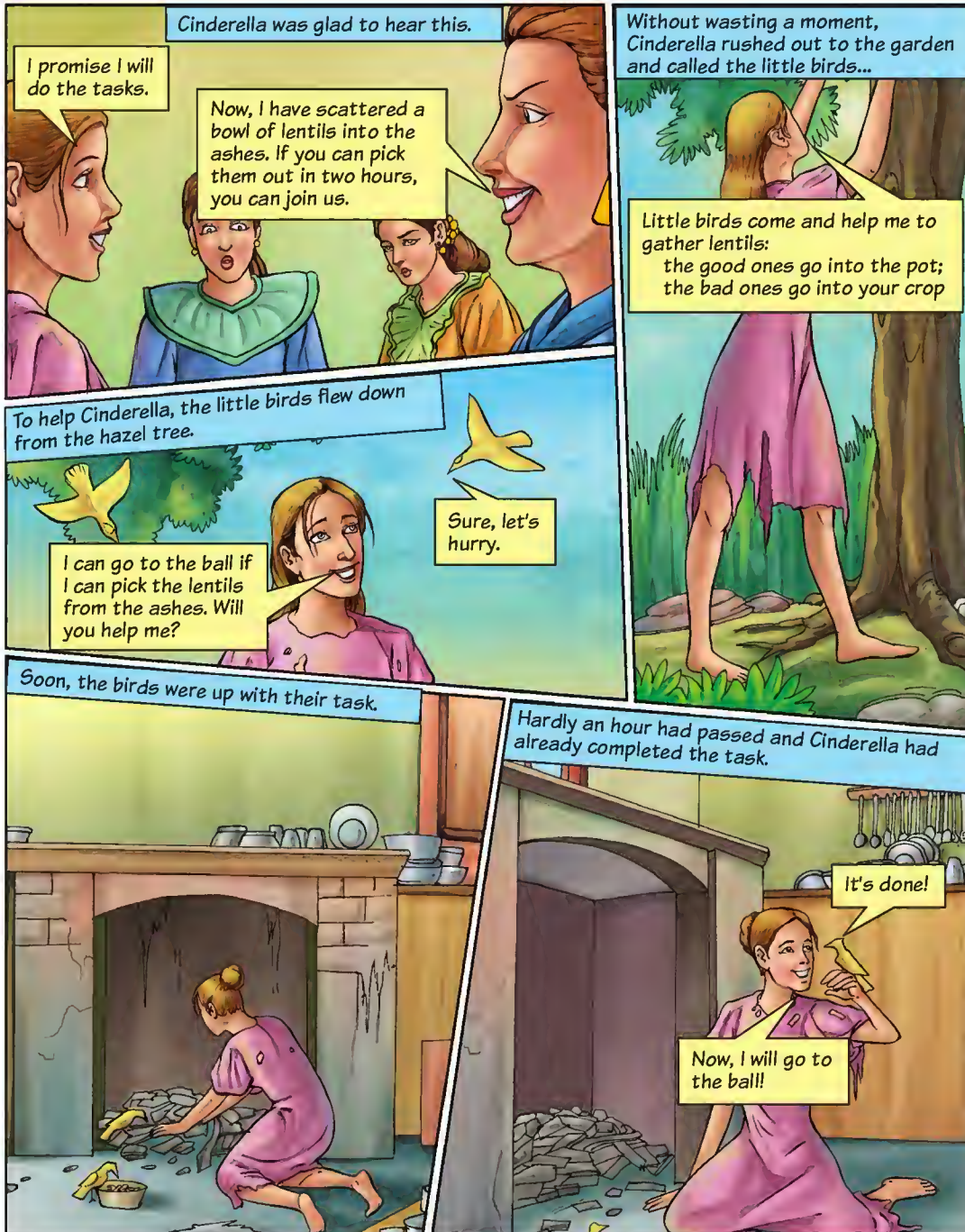
But the invitation said that...

HA! Imagine
a Cinder girl
dancing with
the prince.

Cinderella. I find no reason



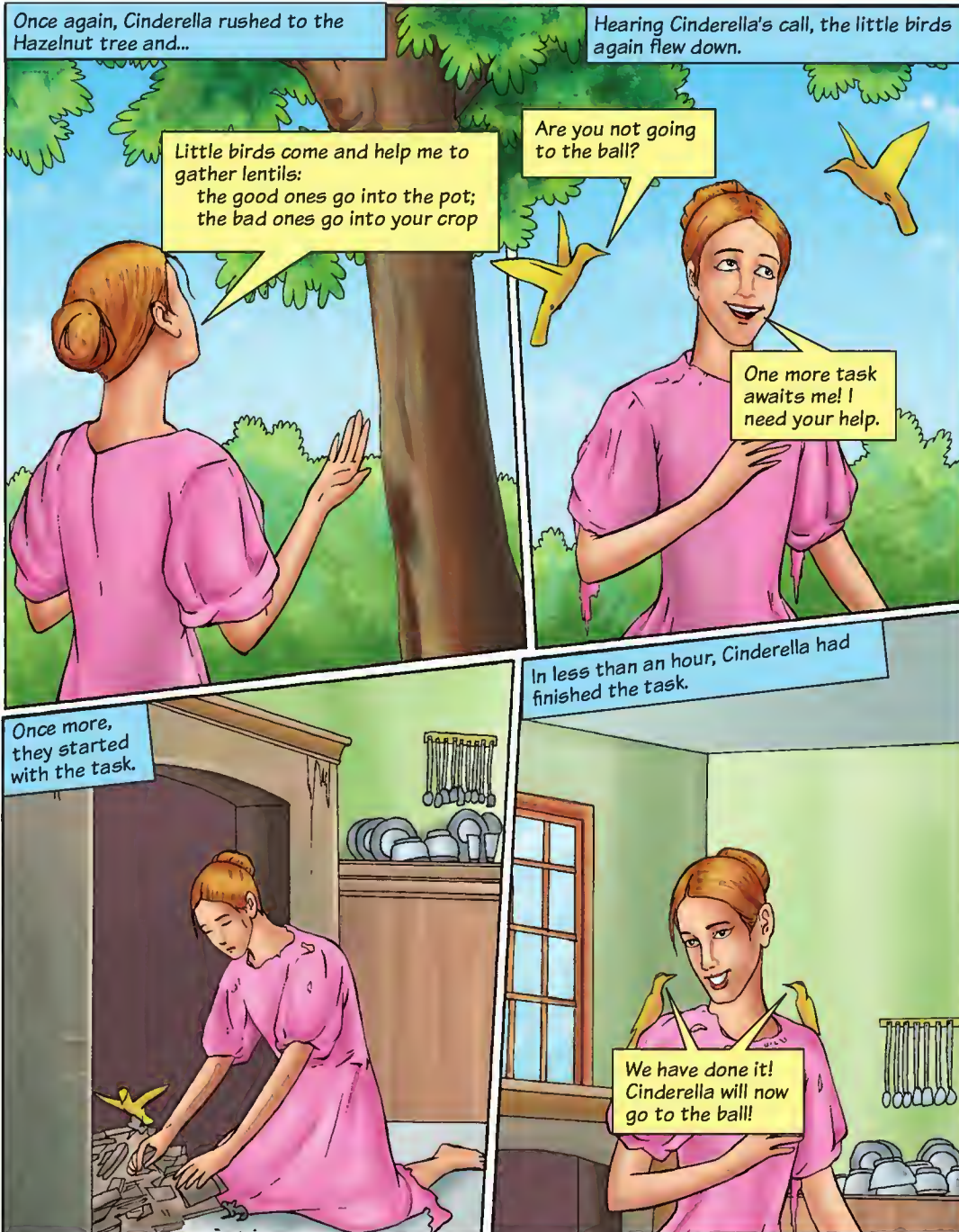
...and, I find no reason
why you can't go. But you
must finish some tasks
before joining us at the ball.













With two bowls full of lentils, Cinderella rushed to Lady Gertrude.



Hiding her disappointment, Lady Gertrude complied with Cinderella's wish.



But Cinderella didn't have a pretty dress to wear. So she decided to borrow one from her stepsister Clarissa.



Sad, Cinderella went to Melissa. But Melissa said...







Be fast Cinderella,
there is not a
moment to waste.

Disheartened, Cinderella returned to her attic room.



It's my mother's
trunk. There must
be something
pretty to wear in it.

Cinderella was so happy at finding the dress that
she forgot to iron Melissa's dresses.



It looks perfect!
Though it's a bit old
fashioned, I will mend
it and adorn it with a
bow and lace.





Cinderella's thoughts were interrupted when she heard Melissa calling her. She rushed to the door, leaving her dress.



Cinderella met Melissa, who was fuming with anger in the hallway.



Silly girl! Where are my clothes? What took you so long?

I am sorry! I will be back with your clothes in a minute!

Leaving the mending work, Cinderella ironed Melissa's clothes.



After completing the work, Cinderella returned to the attic room, to work on her dress.



It's a lovely dress!

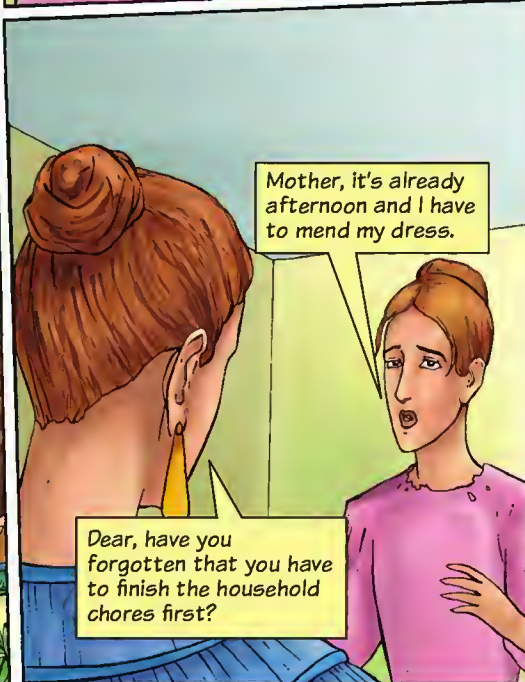
Some mending will make it perfect.

But hardly had she uttered this that she heard Clarissa calling her.

I will be back in a moment!

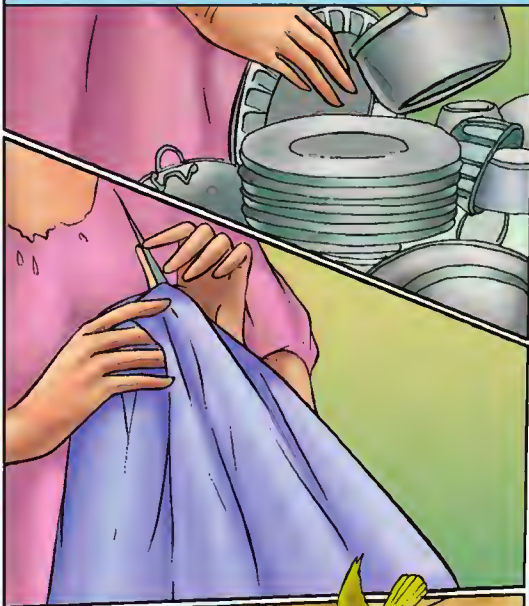




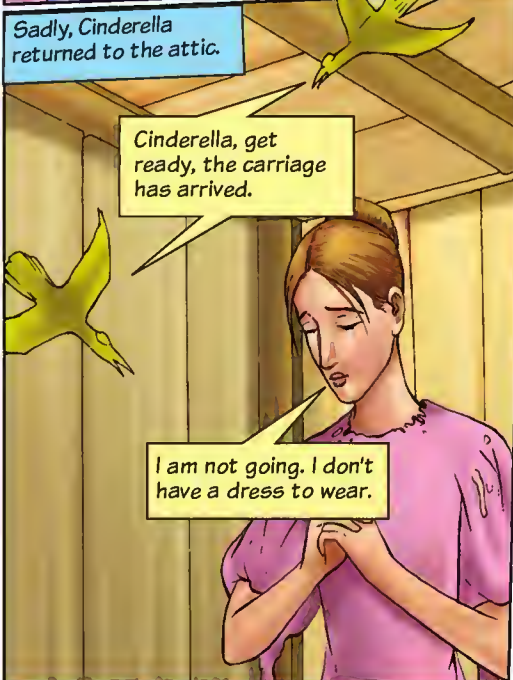




Cinderella spent the rest of the day washing dishes, cooking lunch, and hemming her stepsisters' gowns.



Sadly, Cinderella returned to the attic.



By the time Cinderella had finished, it was already evening. Cinderella peeped out of the living room window and saw a magnificent carriage waiting for her sisters.



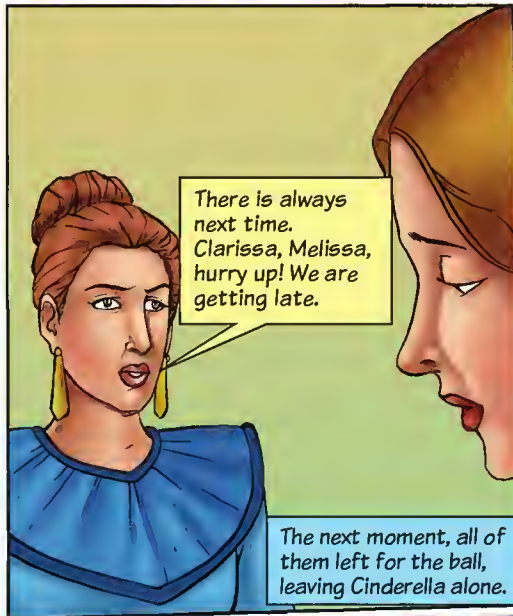
The next moment, the birds flew up to the dressing screen, and unveiled a magnificent gown.





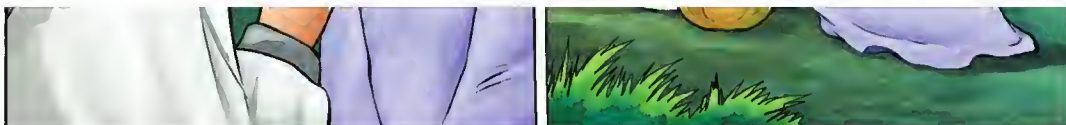








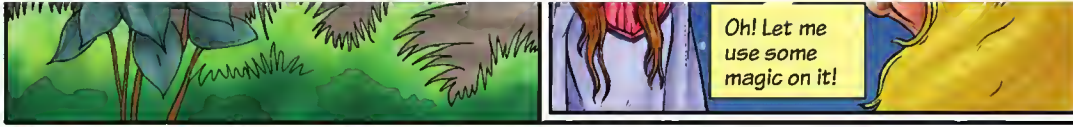








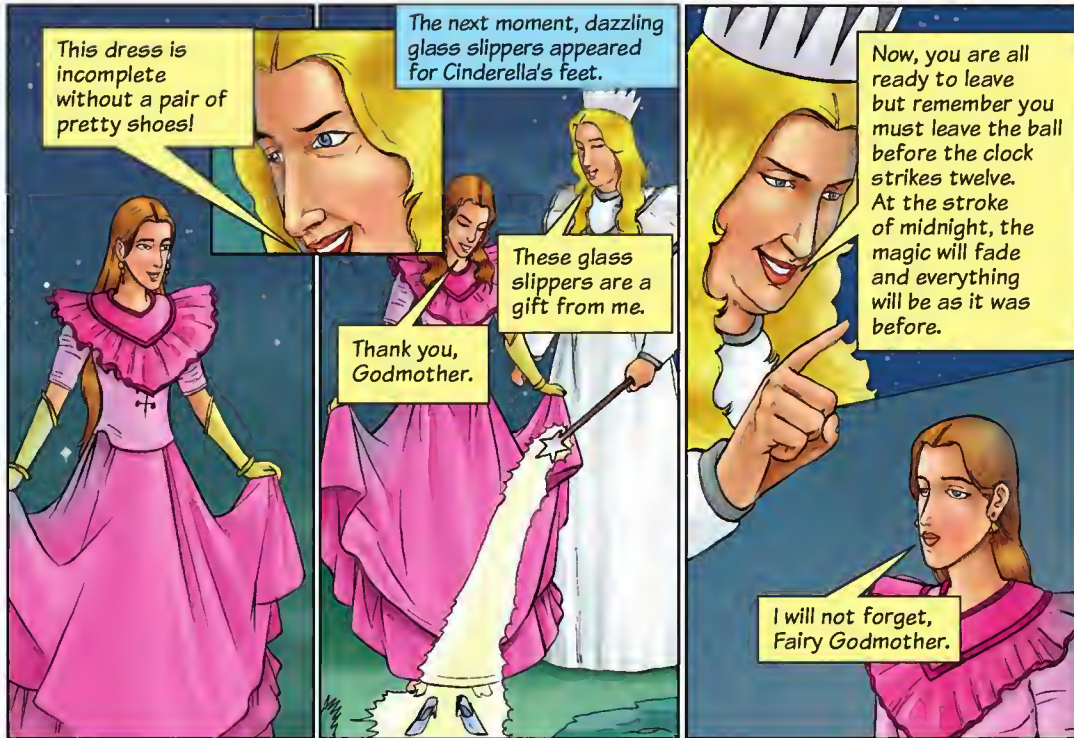




The next moment, the Fairy Godmother touched Cinderella with her wand. That very instant, her dress changed into a beautiful gown, adorned with gold and silver. A pair of dazzling diamond earrings added beauty to the dress.









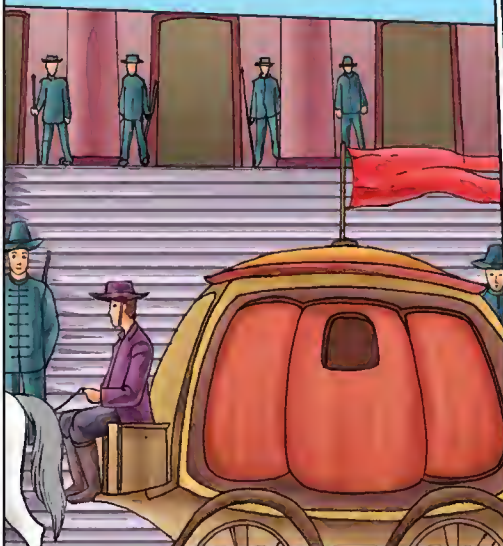
Meanwhile, at the palace, the ballroom was magnificently lit. The maidens from different parts of the kingdom had arrived to try their luck.



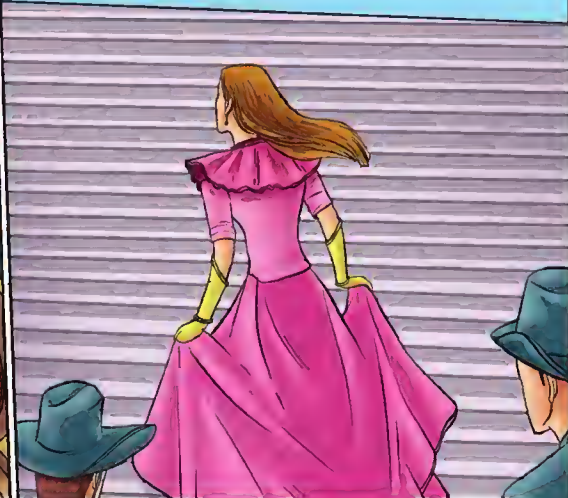
Minutes later, the Prince, along with the king and queen, entered the room. A silence fell, as all the maidens had eyes only for the prince.

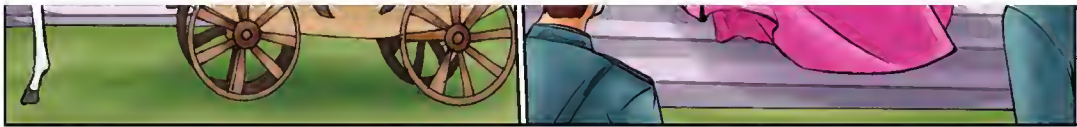


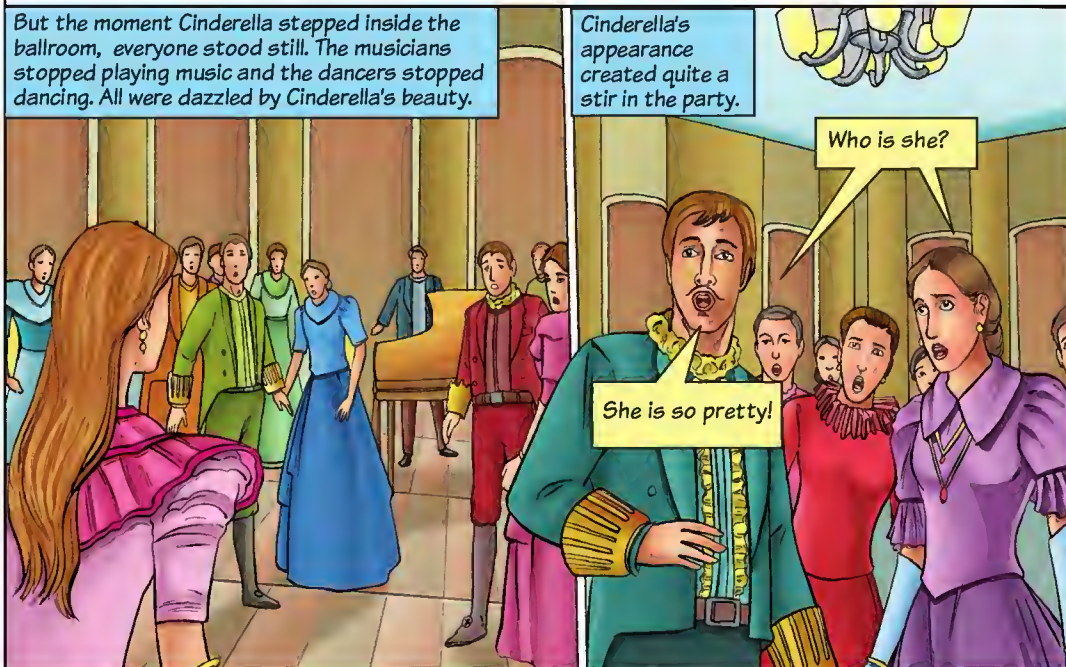
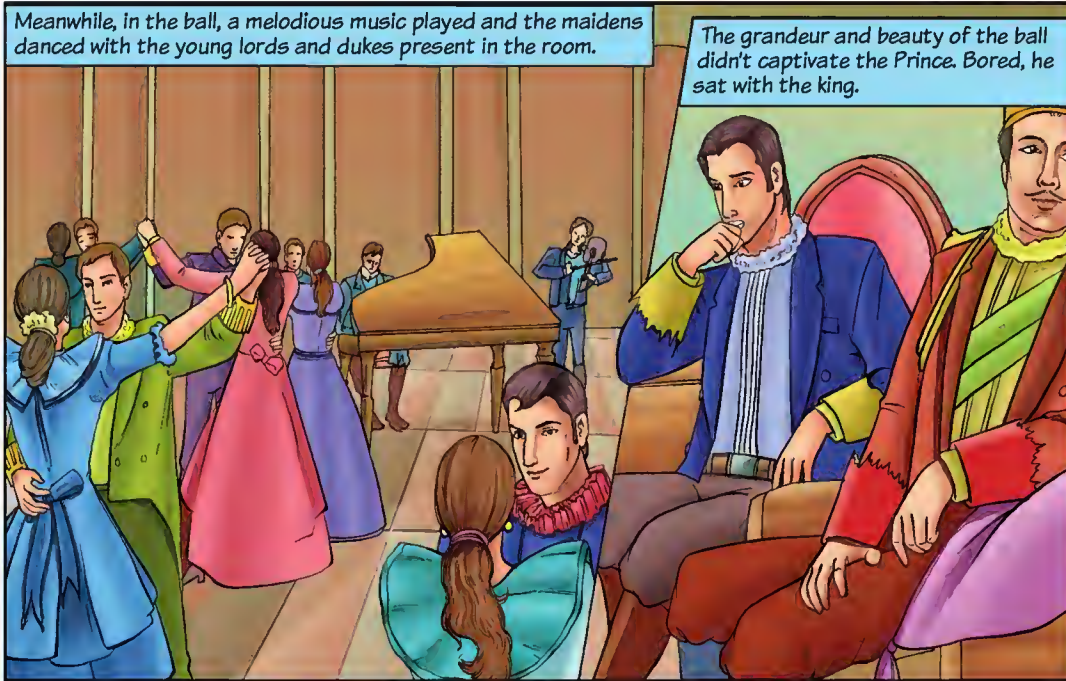
Meanwhile, Cinderella's carriage stopped at the palace gate.



The guards were amazed to see such a magnificent carriage. When Cinderella stepped down, they were astonished by her beauty.





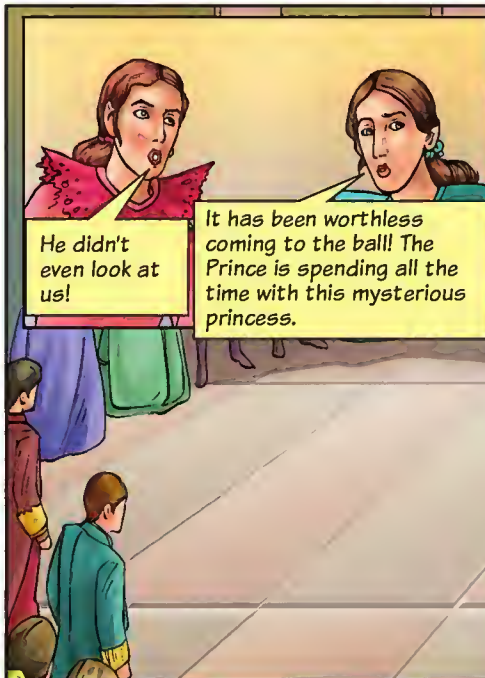




The Prince himself welcomed Cinderella into the ball.



Pretty Cinderella was led to the dance floor by the charming Prince. They floated like clouds to the melodious music, which filled the room.



The Prince had fallen in love with Cinderella. In each dance, Prince chose Cinderella as his partner.



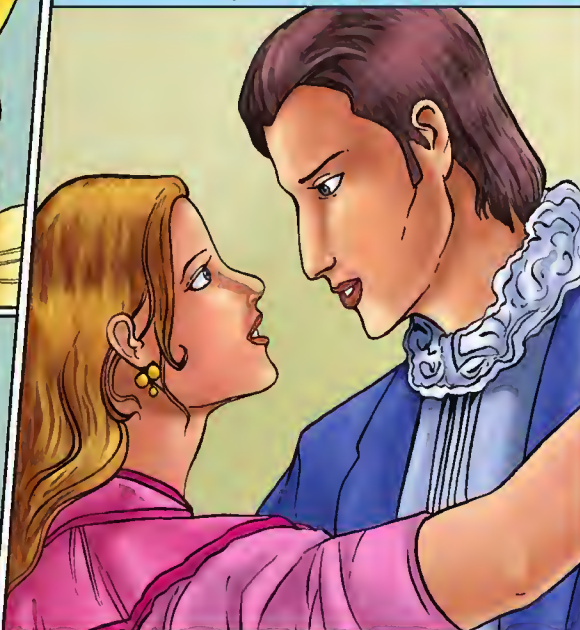




The old king too did not fail to notice how lovely Cinderella was!

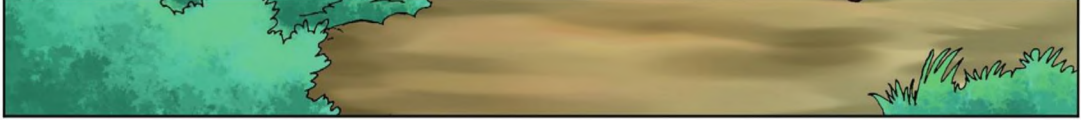


Meanwhile, the Prince and Cinderella were lost in their own world. The Prince was captivated by Cinderella's beauty.









The moment Cinderella reached home, she rushed to the attic and changed into her rags.



Then, she went to the garden and called out to the Fairy Godmother.



Fairy Godmother, where are you? I want to tell you everything.

The next moment, the Fairy Godmother appeared.



You look very happy, dear!

It has been the best evening of my life!

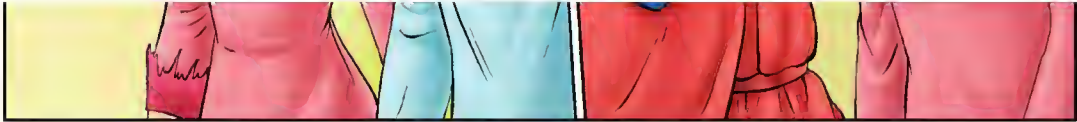
Godmother, everyone looked at me and talked about me. The Prince asked me for a dance and we danced the whole evening!



God bless you, my child.

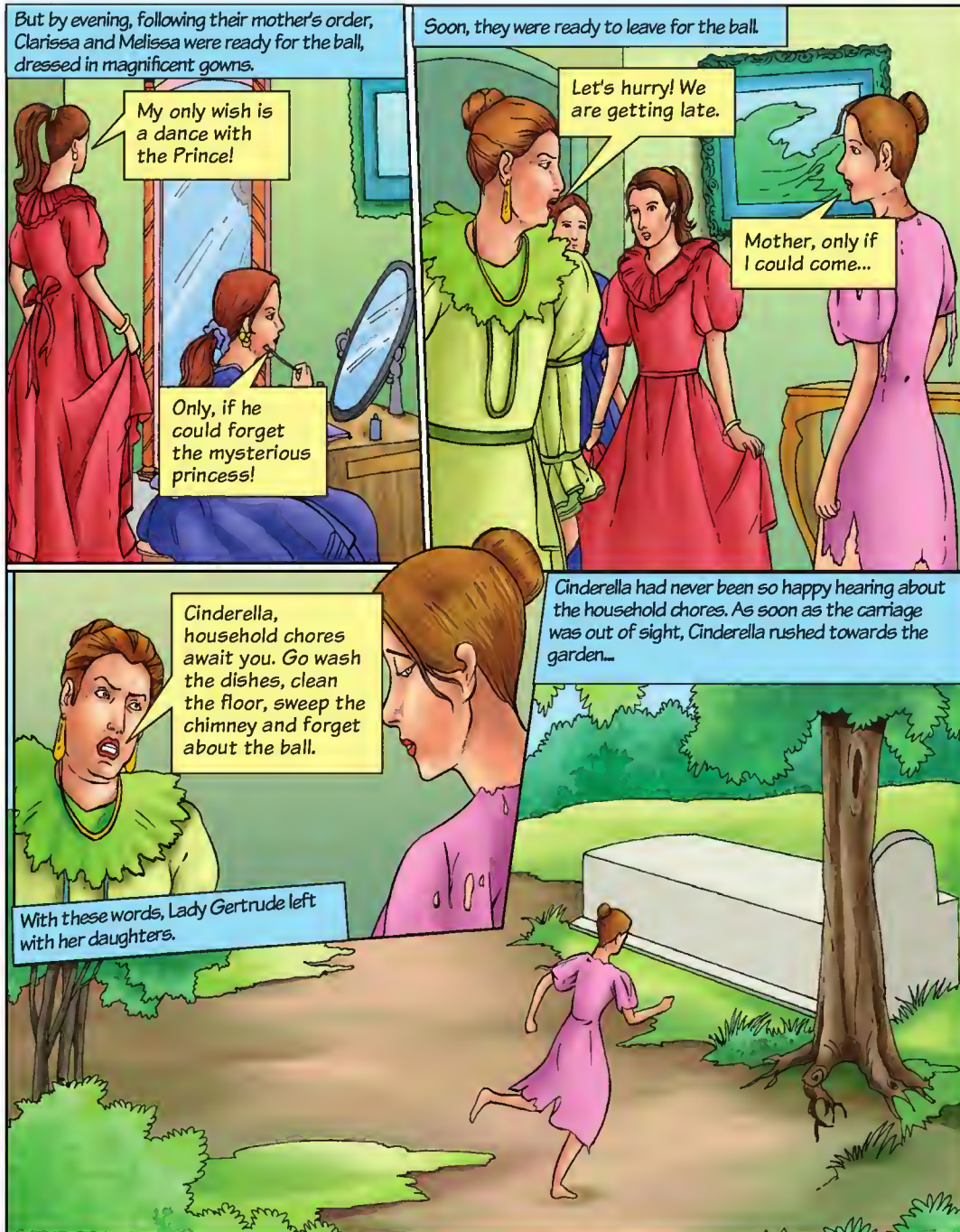


















Once again, the footman opened the door for Cinderella. Then, the coachman drew the whip and the horses started towards the palace.



The carriage wheels had just turned, when Fairy Godmother remembered that she had forgotten something. So she called after the carriage.

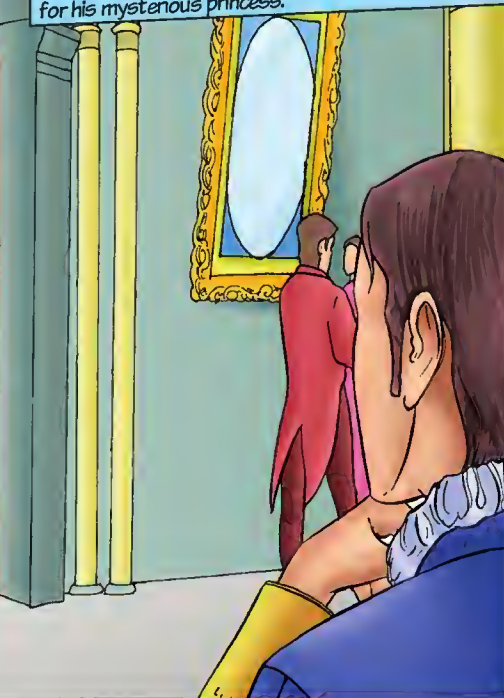


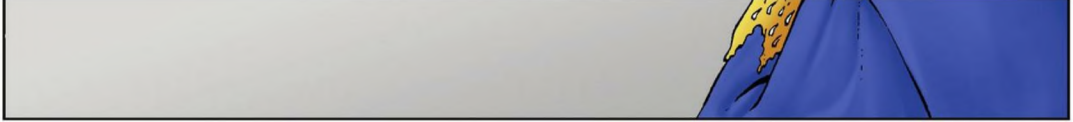
Don't forget that the spell will break at midnight.

Meanwhile at the ball, the Prince was eagerly waiting for his mysterious princess.



Don't worry Godmother, I will not forget!





The moment Cinderella entered the room, the Prince's face lit up. Quickly, he approached Cinderella and asked for a dance.



That night too, the Prince danced only with Cinderella. Cinderella also had fallen in love with the Prince.



Meanwhile, hushed talks were going on in the ballroom.



The night progressed and it was only when the clock struck midnight that Cinderella remembered Fairy Godmother's warning.



With these words, Cinderella rushed out of the ballroom. But this time, the Prince followed her and...





Cinderella ran as fast as her little feet would take her. As she rushed down the staircase, one of her glass slippers came off her feet.





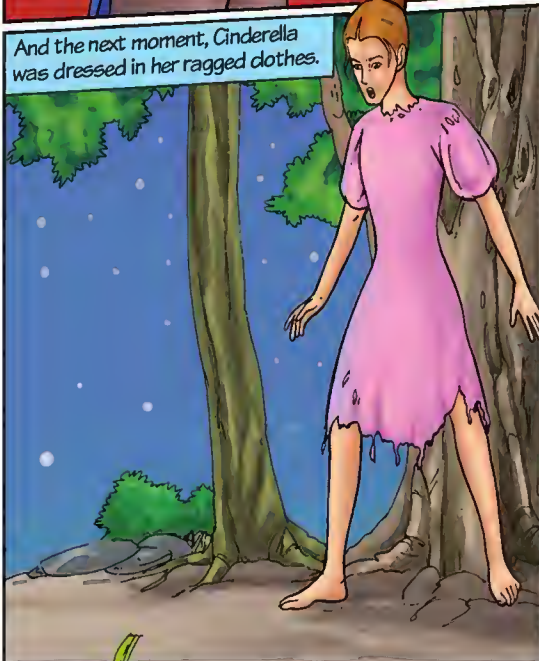
Cinderella's glass slipper was picked up by the Prince.



By the time Cinderella reached the carriage, the spell had faded. The carriage had changed into a pumpkin and little mice ran here and there.

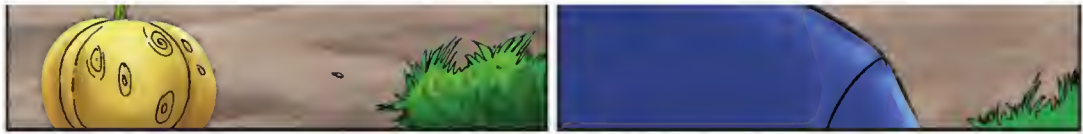


And the next moment, Cinderella was dressed in her ragged clothes.

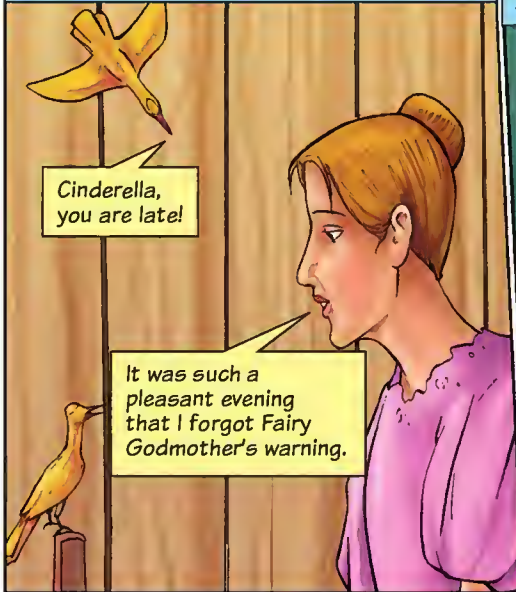


Meanwhile, the Prince rushed down to find his mysterious princess but all he could see was a girl dressed in rags walking down the road.

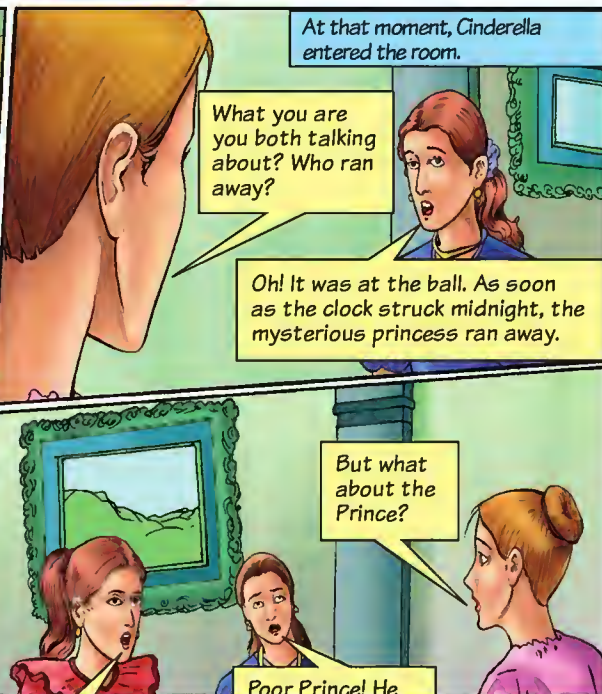


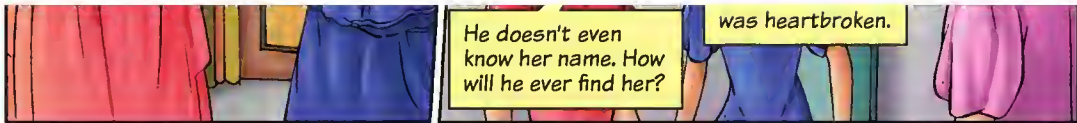


After a long walk, tired, Cinderella reached home. Her friends rushed to her to hear about the ball.

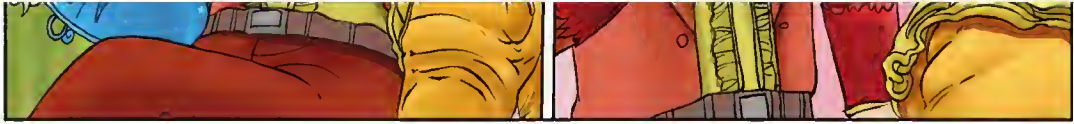


But before Cinderella could complete her story, she heard the sound of an approaching carriage. At once, she rushed down the stairs.

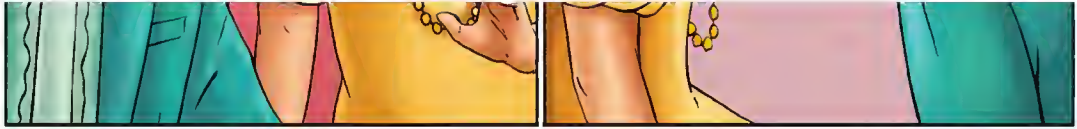




















Meanwhile, the Prince and the royal minister went from house to house, searching for the mysterious Princess. But he had no luck.



The young maidens tried hard but either the slipper was too small or too large for their feet.



The Prince was sad to see this.



It seems that I will never find the mysterious princess!

My Lord, don't lose hope. There are still some houses left.

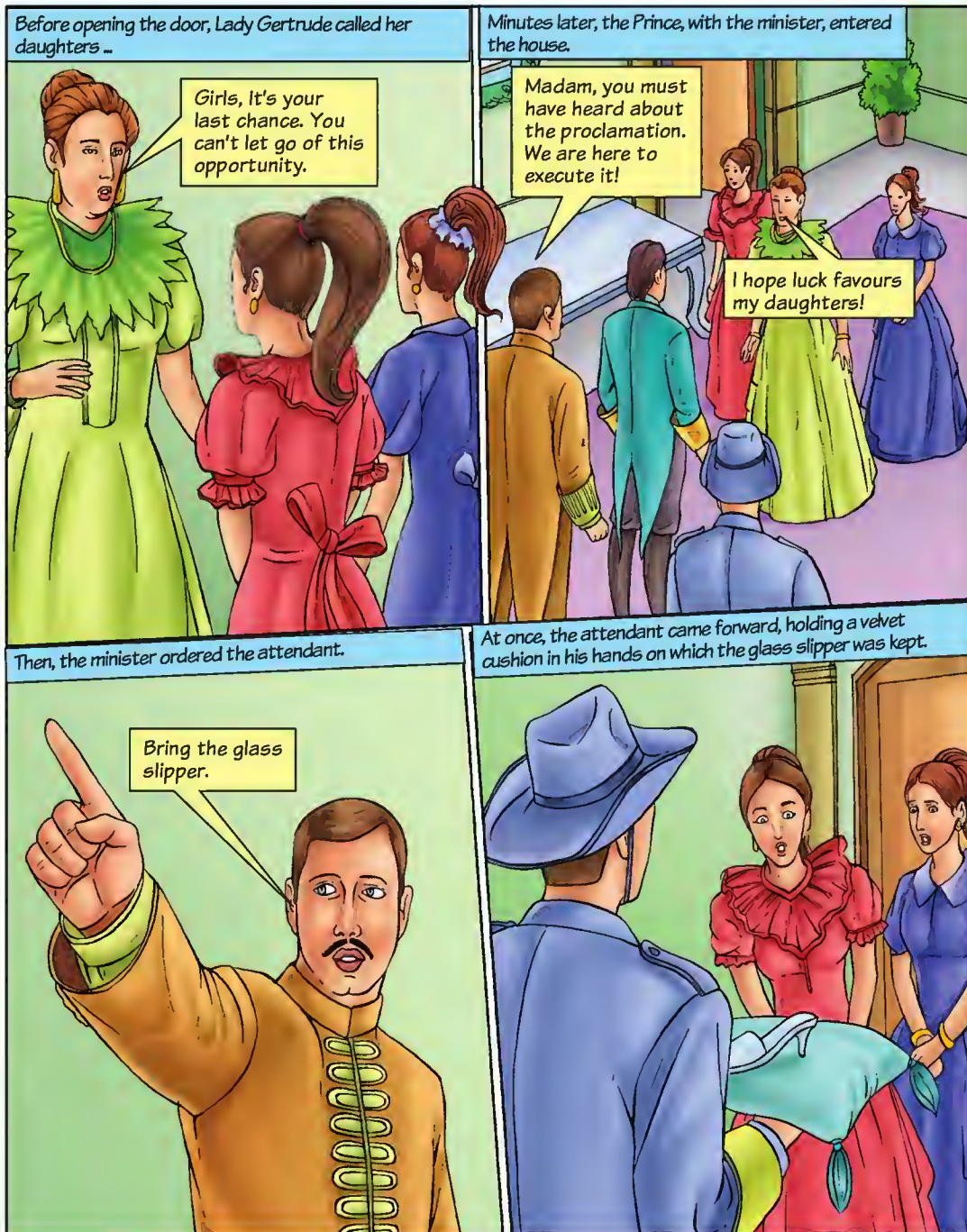
Meanwhile, Clarissa and Melissa were eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Prince. Every now and then, they peeped out of the window to see if the royal carriage had arrived.







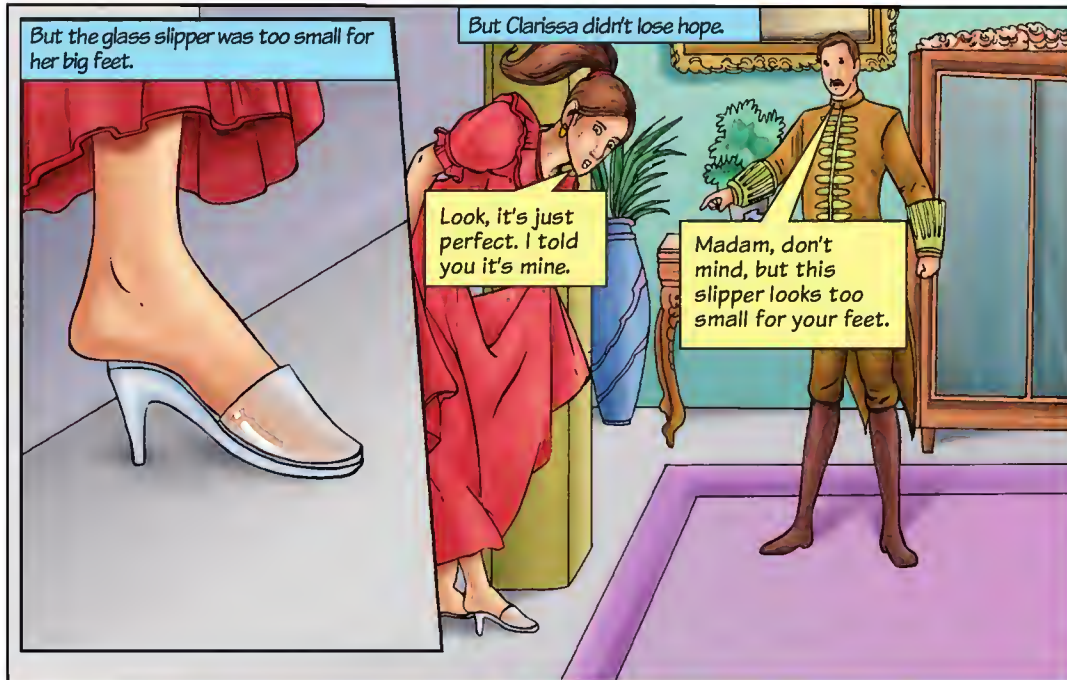




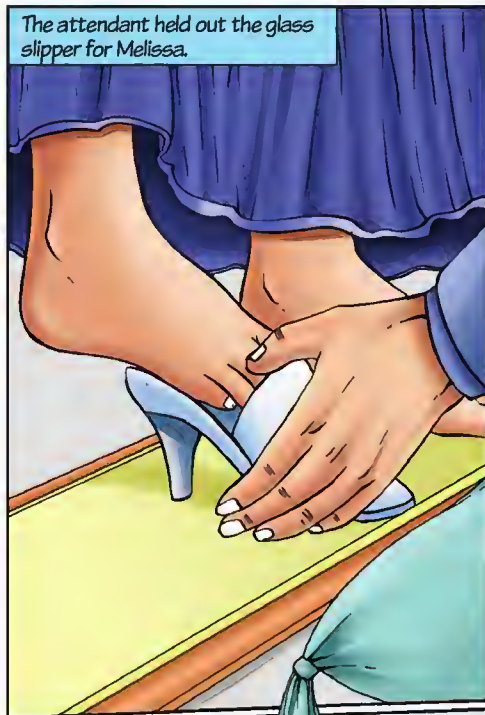










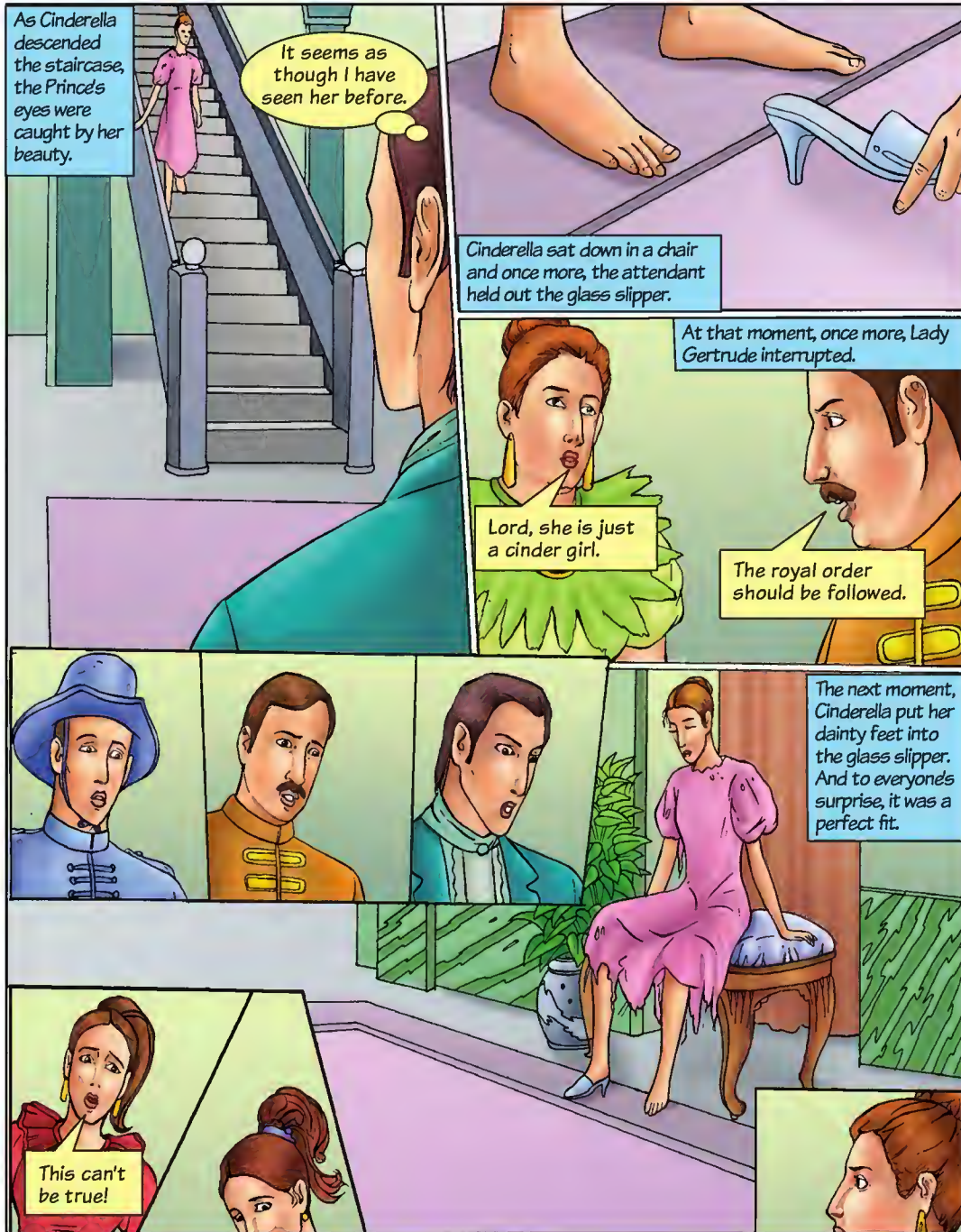






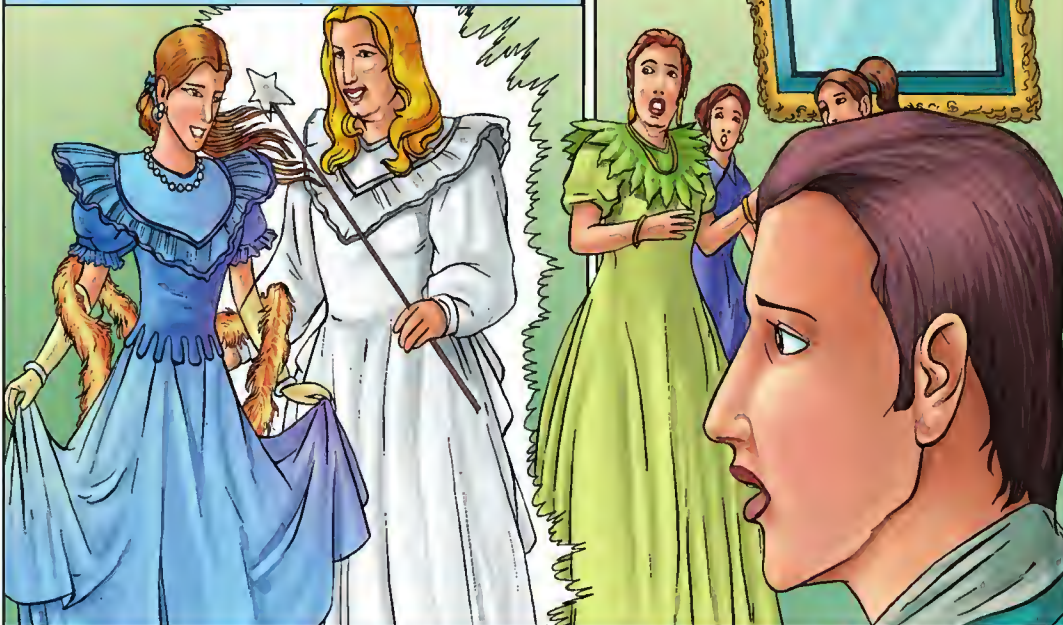


Lady Gertrude was left with no choice than to follow the orders.





The next moment, Fairy Godmother appeared and she changed Cinderella with a flick of her wand. Cinderella was transformed into the beautiful princess, who had stolen the heart of the Prince.



Prince was too happy to have found his bride. Without wasting a moment, he asked her...



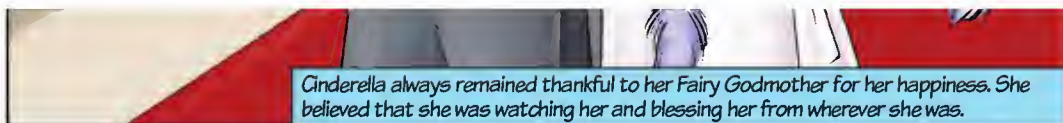


Happy, the Prince took Cinderella to the Palace, where they were welcomed by the king and the queen.



Two days later, a grand wedding ceremony was held. Cinderella looked charming in her white bridal gown. Many guests came to bless Cinderella and the Prince on their wedding. Cinderella's little friends flew up to her to wish her all the happiness.





Cinderella always remained thankful to her Fairy Godmother for her happiness. She believed that she was watching her and blessing her from wherever she was.

CINDERELLA

CLASSIC STORIES AND FAIRY TALES GO HAND IN HAND WITH A CHILD'S GROWING UP YEARS. HOWEVER, IN THIS AGE OF COMIC BOOKS, THE CLASSICS ARE GRADUALLY FINDING LESS AND LESS TAKERS.

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